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Honorable James D. O'Connell Director of Telecommunications Management Executive Office of the President Washington, D. C. 20504

Dear Mr. O'Connell:

Mr. Helms has asked that I respond for him to your letter of 24 October concerning telecommunications related leases and agreements made by U.S. Government Departments and Agencies.

The Central Intelligence Agency concurs in the objective of the proposed Circular. The following comments are offered with respect to its text:

- a. It is recommended that the first paragraph of Section I "Background" statement be deleted from the Circular since it does not appear to bear directly on the subject of the Circular. The second paragraph under "Background," on the other hand, clearly states the problem and seems fully to serve as the introduction to the remainder of the Circular.
- b. Insertion of the word "telecommunications" in sub-paragraph a of Section III would clarify its application.
- c. The requirement in sub-paragraph b of Section III for positive action with a host country could further complicate the alreadydifficult negotiation of agreements. Rewording to state, subject to the same Secretary of State caveat, that agreements should not be restrictive in character is considered desirable.

Sincerely,

L. K. White Executive Director

Director of Communications

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